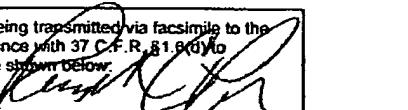


RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
OCT 05 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(d)(4) to facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below.

Dated: October 5, 2004      Signature:   
(Russell C. Petersen)

Docket No.: 20022/38497A  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Mario Spatafora

Application No.: 10/607,705

Art Unit: 3721

Filed: 06/27/2003

Examiner: Hemant Desai

For: **METHOD OF PRODUCING SOFT PACKETS  
OF CIGARETTES**

**ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY**

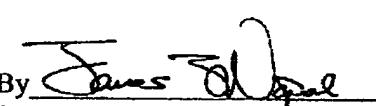
MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby grant Russell C. Petersen, Registration No. 53,457, power of attorney to prosecute this application and transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith.

Dated: October 5, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By   
James J. Napoli  
Registration No.: 32,361  
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300  
Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357  
(312) 474-6300  
Attorneys for Applicant